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I HOPE YOU DREGS AND SLACKERS APPRECIATE WHAT THESE PEOPLE JUST DID FOR YOU TODAY.
THEY SAVED YOUR LIVES! THEY SAVED THE WORLD!
NOT METAPHORICALLY, ACTUALLY! AND THEY'RE NOT EVEN GOING TO COME OUT AND TAKE A BOW.
YOU GET ME? THE WORLD GETS TO TURN ONE MORE DAY AND IT'S BECAUSE OF THEM.
SO YOU BETTER GO DO SOMETHING A HELL OF A LOT MORE MEANINGFUL THAN WATCHING REALITY TV AND FIGHTING OVER YOUR SEAT ON THE BUS.
YOU'D BETTER APPRECIATE IT.
NEXT ISSUE: WHO ARE THE NEW AVENGERS?

Edwin Jarvis was, in fact, a celebrated war hero and a champion boxer for three straight years in his homeland of England. He moved to America, seeking a better way of life, and found it in the trust and employment of the Stark family.

Tony Stark: My father wasn't a man who was known for his trust in other people. He was a member of the military-industrial complex and certainly wasn't in a position to just allow any person into his house. My father's instincts on Jarvis were right on the money. In another time he would have been a Knight of the Round Table. I'm not even joking slightly.

Janet Van Dyne (the Wasp/founding Avenger): As good a baker as Jarvis is, and he may be the greatest baker on the planet Earth, let's not confuse the situation and just think of him as some sort of manservant. This is a man who has stood up to Dr. Doom, the Masters of Evil, you name it…I mean, stood up and held his ground. He's the protector of our home. He is the final line of defense. Have I mentioned he's a hell of a baker?

Tony Stark: You're not going to get Jarvis to say much on the record…probably because he signed a nondisclosure agreement with Stark Industries the size of a small car, but mostly because he's a gentleman's gentleman. He just won't brag. Not like I will (laughs). But the fact of the matter is that Jarvis is one of the true heroes in this world. I find him a truly noble person whose life story alone would make one hell of a book.

Jarvis: I appreciate what this record is and my place in the Avengers' story. I'm just not one to speak of myself. It is not my way.

Steve Rogers: I've said it before and I'll say it again. Jarvis is an Avenger. He is as much an Avenger as any of us.

Around this same time, the Avengers found themselves host to another colorful character. But this one was literally from the annals of mythology. He is known by many names…The lion of Olympus, the son of Zeus…

Dr. Henry Pym: Hercules. Yes. Just the kind of guy you want hanging around your girlfriend.

Clint Barton: I remember he moved into Avengers Mansion, but I don't remember why. I don't remember why we allowed it. He didn't join the team. He wasn't an Avenger. He was just hanging around. And if memory serves, he was annoying the crap out of me.

Hercules found himself banished to Earth as a lesson brought forth by his father, Zeus. Hercules had no real experience in modern Earth society and decided to accept the Avengers' invitation to stay with them.

Dr. Henry Pym: How do I say this nicely? We invited him to stay with us, but I would be lying if I didn't say we quickly regretted it.

Janet Van Dyne: He was just a lout. That's the only word I can think of. Lout.

Clint Barton: He would pick a fight about anything. With anybody. And this was a team that liked to bicker. We were the bickering Bickersons. But he wasn't bickering. He was picking fights. And I'm sure where he came from that was how you did things. Or maybe not. Maybe that's why he was banished here…because they didn't like it either. And, yes, I do realize how insane it sounds that a guy like me would even know a guy like--or a god like that. I know how it sounds bitching about a mythological deity. But really, when it comes down to it, that is the magic of being an Avenger. You are going to meet all kinds. You will find yourself surrounded by people from all walks of life. Mutants, gods, D-Man.

Dr. Henry Pym: But don't get me wrong. Nice guy. Hell of a guy.

Janet Van Dyne: Excellent Thor replacement material. A good powerhouse. Great tactical skills. And easy on the eyes. (Laughs)

Clint Barton: Oh yeah, Herc's the best. Don't get me wrong. He's a hell of a fighter and he's a blast to go drinking with. You're talking about back then. You're talking about first impressions. And first impressions, back then, he was a giant pain in the ass.

While the Avengers were coping with growing celebrity and the constant struggles of keeping the team together, halfway around the world, one of the most infamous terrorists on the planet was plotting a very personal attack on the core of the team. The mutant terrorist, Magneto, was looking to put back together his Brotherhood. He was looking for Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch.

Steve Rogers: We all have baggage. Each of us has led a very colorful life and each of us has created a list of so-called sworn enemies. Really, it's only a matter of time before one of these sworn enemies comes looking for one of us or all of us. In my opinion, one of the best things about being an Avenger is that, when these times come, you don't have to face them alone. The team is there for you. If you let it be.

Dr. Henry Pym: This stuff with Magneto, I always felt bad for Pietro and Wanda. And if I remember correctly, this was before they knew that Magneto was their father. They were just part of his team. I'm still unclear as to whether Magneto knew they were his children or not. That's part of the reason I feel so bad for them about the stuff. It was all very confusing.

Tony Stark: First of all, let's talk about Magneto's so-called worldview. I know this is

going to seem odd to say, but he wasn't wrong. Mutants were a serious racial issue. And even though they are still a serious racial issue, you'll notice I'm talking about the subject in the past tense because around that time it seemed like an insurmountable racial issue. It seemed like there was nothing that could be done that would make humans and mutants able to live together as equals and in harmony. Now things seem better--on the good days. So even though I don't like him on any level and absolutely, with every fiber of my being, despise everything he has done in the name of his cause…I do understand it. He isn't a criminal in the truest sense of the word. He isn't greedy and looking for money. He isn't causing trouble just to cause trouble. He truly believes in what he believes. His point is arguable. His actions are absolutely not.

Pietro Maximoff (Quicksilver/Avenger): I was naïve enough to believe that we had escaped Magneto. I was naïve enough to believe we were done with him forever. I believed that being an Avenger and having the media spotlight on my sister and myself shielded us from any more of his madness. I was very wrong. If anything, our celebrity status made us more of a target. He could not allow us to thrive without him.

Carol Danvers (Ms. Marvel/future Avenger): Not to get all political, but this is how you know Magneto is full of it. If he was truly fighting for equality, if he was fighting for the mutant agenda as it were, then he should have been thrilled that the Avengers had made Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch part of the team. In my opinion, this was a giant step forward for mutantkind. This was history-making stuff. Like Tony says, this was the Avengers teaching tolerance by example. How do you say this is anything but a major step forward in mutant/human relations?

Janet Van Dyne: Yes, Magneto says he's fighting for equal rights, but it is really all about him. A normal person would have looked at his children and seen how they had risen above the disaster that was their childhood and become not only citizens of the world, but symbols of what the world will look like if we choose to allow it to be that way.

Magneto waited for his children to be apart from the team and captured them. He held both of them against their will as he worked tirelessly to re-indoctrinate them into seeing the world the way he saw it.

Pietro Maximoff: I'm ashamed of myself for all that I am about to tell you. Truly. I am not making excuses, but both my sister and I were in a fragile state and he took advantage of that. To be fair, he told us that he wanted us to accompany him on a mission of peace. He was going to march into the United Nations and declare peace between mutants and humans. We followed him because we believed he was really going to do it. And, technically, he did. He marched into the halls of the United Nations and declared peace. But Magneto was a known terrorist and these were very stressful times. And being the manipulator that he is, he worded his declaration in a way that it sounded very much like a threat of war. He did this specifically so a riot would break out and he would have his proof. He really wanted to show us that there would never be peace between the mutants and the humans.

Janet Van Dyne: If I'm not mistaken, Wanda was shot during that riot.